

The Gainesville Sun.

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

WOMAN HANGED FOR MURDERING HUSBAND

Important Murder Case of Vermont Closed.

CRIME WAS COMMITTED IN 1902

Woman Had Remarkable Career and Seemed to Have Strange Influence on Those She Met--Petitions for Clemency Were of No Avail.

Windsor, Vt., Dec. 9.—Mrs. Mary Mabel Rogers was hanged at the Vermont state prison at Windsor at 1:13 this afternoon for the murder of her husband, Marcus Rogers. Mrs. Rogers was pronounced dead by the prison officials at 1:27 p. m.

For a second time Windsor is crowded with strangers who have sought the vicinity of the death scene of Mary Mabel Rogers, whose execution was set for the hour between noon and 1 o'clock today. Few received permits to actually witness the hanging. Hope for the condemned woman was practically abandoned today. The sheriff's deputy chosen to spring the trap, arrived during the night and consulting arrangements were promptly made. Awaiting Governor Ball's arrival at 6 o'clock this morning at White River Junction, a few miles north of here, were Mrs. Rogers' attorneys ready to make the final legal plea in her behalf.

Mrs. Jessie Patton, of Cincinnati, armed with a petition for clemency signed by thousands of women, had also come from Rutland and awaited the executive.

Remarkable Career.

The career of Mrs. Rogers has been a remarkable one. A wife at 16 and a mother at 19, and but 22 at the day of her death. Ignorant and depraved, she had a strange influence on those she met and her admirers were many. In 1902, having won the affections of three men, she encompassed the death of her husband, Marcus H. Rogers, with the aid of another admirer, Leon Perham, to the end that she might marry a third lover, Maurice Knapp. Perham confessed, and she is serving a life sentence here.

Mrs. Rogers was born in Hoosick Falls, N. Y., and when married removed to Bennington, Vt., where the murder was committed.

Story of the Crime.

The crime for which Mrs. Mary Mabel Rogers was sentenced to death was the murder of her husband at Bennington, Aug. 13, 1902.

At the time the crime was committed Mrs. Rogers was only 19 years old. She had been separated from her husband for some time, and was desirous of marrying a young man named Maurice Knapp. On the day of the murder Marcus Rogers went to Bennington to visit his wife, and that night she arranged to meet him in the woods near the Walloomsac river. While caressing him she induced him to allow her to bind his hands, and while he was powerless she chloroformed him. In this she was aided by Leon Perham, a half-witted boy, who was the son of the woman with whom she was boarding. Another woman, Estelle Bates, was present. After chloroforming Rogers, Perham and Mrs. Rogers rolled the body into the river, where it was found the next day. In order to divert suspicion, the woman wrote a note to which she signed her husband's name, giving the impression he had committed suicide. Immediately after the murder Mr. Rogers endeavored to collect her husband's life insurance, amounting to \$500, and also made arrangements to purchase furniture for the house where she expected to live when she married Knapp.

A few days after the murder Mrs. Rogers, Perham and the Bates woman were arrested. Perham made a complete confession and both he and Mrs. Rogers were found guilty of murder in the first degree. Perham was sentenced to imprisonment for life, while the verdict in Mrs. Rogers' case was death on the gallows.

Residence and Cotton Burned.

Sparta, Ga., Dec. 8.—At Archerton, 10 miles southeast of Sparta, Mrs.

Green P. Archer's dwelling, outhouses and 30 bales of cotton were destroyed by fire Thursday morning. The property was partially insured.

"NOT GUILTY," DECLARED JURY

Man Charged with Conspiracy is Given His Liberty.

Columbus, Ga., Dec. 9.—The jury in the Peterman case, after being out three hours, brought in late Thursday afternoon a verdict of not guilty.

The verdict was received with tears of joy by Mrs. Peterman and two little girls. Quite sensational was the defense in the case of J. T. Peterman, of Taylor county, Georgia, whose trial on the charge of conspiracy ended in the United States court here.

Peterman was charged with having conspired against the life of Frank Wilcher, a government witness in an illicit distilling case, who was shot to death on the streets of Butler, Ga., in December, 1903, by Beg S. Garrett. It was claimed by the government that Garrett, Peterman and John Bateman were jointly interested in illicit distilling, and that they conspired to get Wilcher out of the way because he was the government's informer and main witness against them. Garrett escaped after the killing, and has not yet been captured.

The defendant yesterday placed on the stand Mrs. Ben S. Garrett, who testified that Frank Wilcher came to her house and offered her a drink of whiskey. She declined, and he then made her an improper proposal, she says, and offered her \$10 as compensation. She told her husband of the insult that had been offered her, and he hunted up Wilcher and killed him.

WANTS MONEY RETURNED.

Mrs. Young May Sue Coates for a Good Sum of Money.

Macon, Ga., Dec. 9.—Although she declared to a jury that she never paid \$100 to Frank Coates, an insurance agent, for a premium on a \$6,000 policy, and the jury believed her and acquitted her of the charge of fraudulently impersonating another, Mrs. Maggie Young now wants the \$100 in question, will file a petition in the superior court, asking that Coates be compelled to turn the money over to her.

During her trial Mrs. Young was charged with having impersonated Mrs. Mary Hinson, in an attempt to fraudulently take out a policy with the New York Life and Coates swore that she had paid him the money.

On the strength of Coates' testimony, Mrs. Young now wants the money. Coates admits that the money does not belong to the New York Life, but he doesn't know what to do with it. It was given him by a woman calling herself Mrs. Mary Hinson, and he says that woman was Mrs. Young.

The jury evidently believed Mrs. Young when she denied this, and the affair is in a tangle.

New Orders from War Department.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Orders have been issued by the war department providing that searchlights at military forts will not be thrown in night drills upon any vessels except those provided with government artillery. It is ordered that if a light is thrown upon any other vessel it will be removed as soon as it is discovered that the vessel is a private one, or as soon as an alarm whistle is blown. This order is to prevent an interference in the navigation of vessels.

To Reduce Naval Force.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Reduction of the American naval force in Dominican waters from a squadron of protected cruisers to a "mosquito fleet" of gunboats, has been determined upon by the president, with whom Mr. Bacon, the assistant secretary of state, had a conference on the subject Thursday night.

Found Dead in the Woods.

Lavonia, Ga., Dec. 9.—John Q. A. Black, who lived 2 miles from Lavonia, in Hart county, was found dead in the woods near his home where he had gone to cut wood early in the morning by a party of searchers at 7 p. m. Wednesday. The coroner's inquest indicated death from natural causes. He was 31 years old.

WALKER HANGED FOR FIENDISH CRIME

Paid Penalty of Death for Criminal Assault.

CONFESSED TO AWFUL DEED

Mob Captured Prisoner and Prepared for Vengeance When Sheriff Promptly Rescued Him—Special Term of Court Called to Try Prisoner.

Atlanta, Dec. 9.—Jim Walker, self-confessed assailant of Mrs. G. W. Moore, of Brookwood, near Atlanta, who was rescued from a mob by Sheriff Nelms and who quickly tried and convicted on his own startling admission that he was the right negro, was hanged at the Tower by Sheriff Nelms Friday morning.

Walker reiterated his confession to the last, and the night before his execution, he had professed conversion, and had declared that he was ready to die and unafraid.

There was no hitch in the arrangements. The rope had been tested, and all preparations had been made. The execution was private, only G. W. Moore, husband of the victim of Walker's assault, his two sons, John and Cliff, the negro's counsel and physicians, and representatives of the newspapers having been granted admission to the jail by Sheriff Nelms.

Walker's arrest, following the assault on Mrs. Moore, his prompt identification by her, the efforts of the officers to take him to town, and the determined efforts of a mob of Brookwood people, armed and determined, to lynch the prisoner; followed by his rescue by Sheriff Nelms, his speedy trial, his dramatic confession and now his execution, complete a story of a crime hardly without a parallel.

History of the Crime.

The crime for which Walker paid the penalty Friday morning was without a parallel in the history of the state. In broad daylight on Thursday morning, Oct. 26, Walker criminally assaulted Mrs. Alice Moore, wife of G. W. Moore, who lives on Peachtree road near Brookwood, in a turnip patch within a stone's throw of her home, and in sight of a store which was kept by Mrs. Moore's husband.

Walker fled after he had committed the assault. Poses were quickly formed and sent out in every direction to apprehend the assailant. Although a pack of bloodhounds followed several trails, nothing could be learned of the negro. Several persons claimed to have seen the negro, and although a number of suspicious persons were taken in custody, none was identified by Mrs. Moore as her assailant.

Arrested in Fairburn.

Friday after the crime had been committed Marshal Stephens, of Fairburn, arrested a strange negro named Jim Walker. The negro was kept in the Fairburn jail for nearly ten days after the crime was committed. When he was carried in the presence of Mrs. Moore she positively identified Jim Walker as her assailant.

Immediately after the identification a crowd secured Walker from Marshal Stephens and Sheriff Wilkerson, who had him in custody. Threats of lynching were made and the negro was roughly treated, finally being rescued by Sheriff Nelms, who, having heard of the identification of Walker, hurried to the scene in an automobile. Sheriff Nelms pleaded with the mob, and with Mr. Moore's consent, the prisoner was given into custody of Sheriff Nelms.

A special session of the superior court, at which the negro was given every means of justice. Three of Atlanta's most well known lawyers were appointed as Walker's legal advisers. The negro pleaded guilty, and sentenced was passed upon him.

DIVISION OF REWARD.

Everybody Who Helped Capture Walker Will Get Something.

Atlanta, Dec. 9.—Governor Terrell has reached a conclusion as to who should be paid the reward offered by the state for the capture of Jim Walker.

er, alias Will Brice, who was wanted for criminal assault upon Mrs. G. W. Moore.

The rewards offered by the state was \$250, and this was the only amount with which the governor had to deal. It has been decided, however, by those interested that the other rewards should be paid in the same manner as that offered by the state, so that Governor Terrell's finding practically controls as to the division of the other rewards, amounting to \$400, of which \$200 was offered by Mr. Moore and his son, and \$200 by a number of prominent citizens of that section. The total reward to be divided, therefore, is \$650.

There were a number of claimants for the rewards.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

December Session Was the Lightest Held for Several Months.

Gainesville, December 8, 1905.

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session this day. Present: John G. Dampier, chairman; J. G. Osteen, O. C. Pedrick, F. F. Pauling and J. F. Townsend.

Upon motion the minutes of last meeting was approved without reading.

The following bills were ordered paid:

S. H. Wienges, clerk and auditor, \$40; W. M. Torlay, guard, \$25; Moses Sherman, janitor, \$25; Southern Bell Telephone Company, service, \$7; East Florida Telephone Company, service, \$2; S. H. Wienges, stamps, etc., \$9.90; S. H. Wienges, recording tax advertisements and tax sale, \$22.75; M. S. Cheves, supervisor of registration, \$50; Walker, Evans & Cogswell, mortgage book, \$16; Moses Edelstein, sundries for poor farm, \$3.89; J. B. Fletcher, care of paupers, \$63.86; H. H. McCreary, publishing bids for road overseers, etc., \$15; W. D. Dickinson, collector, commissions, \$108.87; Gainesville Gas and Electric Power Company, service, \$9.88; S. A. Fewell, fitting lock on court house, \$1; T. L. Boulware, wood, \$4; J. H. Colson, professional services at jail, \$2; F. A. Roux, fixing pipe, \$4; G. S. Merchant & Co., sundries for jail, \$5.05; Baird Hardware Co., sundries for court house, \$4.60; S. J. Thomas Co., sundries for court house, \$5.40; W. H. Robertson, treasurer, commissions, \$109.15; W. W. Colson, assessor, balance on commissions on tax roll of 1904, \$124.65; costs incurred in inquest of Summers Langford, \$16.40; roads and bridges, \$295.87; Miss H. F. Pepper, stenographer, \$5; J. C. McGrew, court bailiff, \$12.50; L. W. Fennell, executing venire, horse hire for deputies, guards, etc., \$214.15; Miss Lois Hailo, stenographer, \$35; C. R. Layton, taking testimony in case State vs. Robt. Cook, \$5; L. W. Fennell, feeding prisoners for November, \$257.90; J. G. Osteen, road hands for December, \$150; J. F. Townsend, road hands, \$50; O. C. Pedrick, for road hands, \$100. Commissioners' salaries and mileage for quarter ending December 8th as follows: J. G. Dampier, \$26; J. G. Osteen, \$44; O. C. Pedrick, \$14; F. F. Pauling, \$34; J. F. Townsend, \$39.

Ordered.

That J. G. Dampier having in his possession \$100 which was appropriated for payment of road hands, he is hereby instructed to turn over said amount to O. C. Pedrick, which he has done is hereby ordered.

No further business heard adjourned.

CLOSING SALE.

Morris-Phifer Company Offering Big Bargains for Ten Days.

The Morris-Phifer Company have a new advertisement in the paper in which announcement is made that, beginning Wednesday, December 12, and continuing for ten days, the entire stock, consisting of men's, boys' and children's suits, hats and shoes, ladies' jackets, capes, etc., will be sold by the American Savings Company at prices so reduced that it is almost impossible to believe—but the goods are there, subject to inspection, and they will be found in quality as well as price a bargain.

A new feature of this sale is the offer of the firm to pay railroad fare of all customers purchasing \$50 or more, within a radius of fifty miles.

GROWING STORM FAST APPROACHING

Witte Powerless to Cope With Elements of Danger.

REVOLUTION ON EVERY HAND

Russia Trembles on Very Brink of Disolution and the End of Dynasty Appears To Be Almost Inevitable—Soldiers Are Mutinous.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 6, via Elykhuhen, East Prussia, Dec. 8.—Public confidence in the government's ability to weather the growing storm is waning fast.

Premier Witte seems powerless to cope with the new elements of danger which the revolution is raising on every hand. New mutinies among the troops are constantly reported and the lawlessness in the country is increasing.

The immediate danger confronting the government is a concerted attack on the country's credit. The public fear that the government can be forced to suspend gold payments increases daily. This would be the crowning achievement of the revolutionists who are satisfied with the attending financial crash the whole house would come tumbling down. The chances of driving the government into bankruptcy they profess to believe would be materially increased if the confidence of the foreign holders of Russian obligations was undermined, and the news that the French investors, who were unloading their foreign indebtedness, was received with jubilation by the revolutionists.

Soldiers Are Mutinous.

At Kharkoff 3,000 soldiers have agreed not to fire on the people, and at Rostoff the Third Cavalry artillery consisting of 400 men, has held a meeting and formulated demands. Similar action, it is reported, has been taken by the military engineers at Odessa and by the troops in several places in the Baltic province.

The declaration of martial law in Livanla is due to agrarian troubles. Large bands of peasants are marching and pillaging. It is reported that Dorpat is in flames.

Emperor Refuses Witte's Resignation. Berlin, Dec. 8.—8:22 p. m.—A dispatch to the Tagblatt from St. Petersburg dated yesterday and received here today, by way of Elykhuhen, East Prussia, says Premier Witte has given his resignation to the emperor, who refused to accept it.

Railroad Men Strike.

Warsaw, Russian Poland, Dec. 9.—Advice received here today from Riga and Orloff say that the railroad men at various places struck last night as a protest against the proclamation of martial law in the Baltic provinces. Similar news comes from Samaria because of the proclamation of martial law.

WILL ERECT THE MONUMENT.

Gainesville Women Will Unveil a Shaft to Confederates.

Gainesville, Ga., Dec. 9.—At a large and enthusiastic meeting of the Longstreet chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy, held at the residence of the president, Mrs. O. C. Sanders, on motion of Mrs. Longstreet the chapter voted almost unanimously to erect the confederate monument on which they have been at work for some time, and unveil it on next Memorial day. The funds now in hand are more than sufficient for a monument that in beauty and dignity will verily commemorate the valorous deeds of the men who fought and lost some forty years ago.

Store Burned; Warehouse Saved. Fayetteville, Ga., Dec. 9.—W. L. Smith's store was burned Wednesday night. The entire stock of goods was consumed, amounting to \$5,000, with \$2,000 insurance. The store adjoined a cotton warehouse with 2,000 bales of cotton stored therein and it was good work that it was saved.